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DO NOT DETACH

YUGOSLAVIA

SUBJECT: Iron mines at BOR

SOURCES: [REDACTED]

DATE: [REDACTED]

LANGUAGE: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The enterprise bears the official name of "Rudnici i topionica bakra u Boru (Mines and Copper Smelter at BOR). Its location is sufficiently known.

ROAD AND RAILROAD CONNECTIONS

RAILROAD LINES:

BELGRADE-PARACIN-NIS-ZAJECAR (Standard-gauge)

ZAJECAR-METOVNICA-BOR (narrow-gauge), since 1945 it has been prolonged 21 kilometers toward CRNI VRH.

At PARACIN, a narrow-gauge line to METOVNICA-BOR connects with the BELGRADE-NIS line.

On the eastern side of the HOMOLJA Mountains, where there are mines with ores of copper content, a narrow-gauge line runs from [REDACTED] POZAREVAC (a station on a standard-gauge line) to PETROVAC; since 1945 this line has been prolonged 16 kilometers to LADNA VODA.

The so-called strategic, narrow-gauge line from SMEDEREVO to STALAC is very important for BOR. This narrow-gauge line is side-by-side with the standard-gauge line. The former was built upon recommendation of General Staff during the period when Yugoslavia was a kingdom. The narrow-gauge line connects BOR via PARACIN and permits use of the STALAC-CACAK-SARAJEVO-KARDELJEVO line for direct transportation from BOR to the sea. Until 1948, most of the production was taken to PRAHOVO on the DANUBE River via ZAJECAR. From this terminal, it was shipped to USSR and RUMANIA. SMEDEREVO was the loading point for shipments to HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, and POLAND.

There is an industrial railroad within the mine (60-cm gauge) served by 12 electric locomotives, most of which are almost worn out.

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ROADS

In addition to the old BOR-ZAJECAR and ~~WEX~~ BOR-NEGOTIN-PRAHOVO roads there is also the new BOR-ZAGUBICA-PETROVAC-POZAREVAC-BELGRADE road.

POWER

Power is furnished by the thermal power plants of MALI KOSTOLAC and, since 1952, VELIKI KOSTOLAC which are northwest of BOR near the KOSTOLAC lignite deposits.

ORGANIZATION

Director: Milorad RADULIC

Assistant Director: ~~WZSZSZSZSZ~~ Milan PAJIC

Chief Engineer: Mladan GAJIC

Administrator: M. RAKOCEVIC

Personnel Administrator: ZUNIC

SECTIONS:

Administration

Personnel

Planning

Statistics

Labor force (chief: Janko SURBUBOVIC)

Machinery and electricity:(chief engineer: ~~INDEX~~ ANDJELKOVIC)

Railroad traffic

Mines

Surface mining (Coka DULCAN, Tilva MICA)

~~minerals~~

Sorting ores ~~minerals~~ ~~XXXX~~ (chief engineer: ~~XXXXXX~~ BIZJAK)

Foundry (chief engineer: KALKEG)

Electrolytic section

Building

Economy

Loading and unloading

Ore storage

Workers' aid

Guard

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GENERAL REMARKS:

The total labor force is about 13,000, of which 1,700 are women who work in the loading and unloading section. Technical equipment for the workers is very poor; there are few gas masks and protective clothing. Up to the present time, it has been impossible to neutralize the poisonous sulfur fumes. A quarter of the workers comes from the prison at POZAREVAC where war ^{criminals} and political prisoners are detained. The permanent employees come from the nearby localities and most of the men and women are Rumanians. The political ^{prisoners} and war criminals are assigned to heavy work and are almost always used inside the mines. There are about 600 employees in the offices and technical sections; some of these are Germans. The White Russians who used to work at the mines have either been fired or have fled to BULGARIA.

EXPLOITATION OF SURFACE DEPOSITS.

About 5,000 persons work at the two sites - COKA DULKAN and TILVA MIKA. In 1949, the brigade ~~XXX~~ system was introduced in reality, prior to that time it had been only on paper. German DEMAG shovels, types 12 - 22 and 25, are used. Some of these shovels had been left by the Germans and some have been furnished as reparations.

MINES

About 2,200 persons work underground, mostly prisoners who are closely guarded. During the past year their situation has improved somewhat; ~~and~~ they now have medical service and better food in contrast to the unbearable conditions in 1950. There are no longer any German PW's although Germans are hired. The maximum depth of the mine is 300 meters.

SORTING MATERIAL

About 500 men and women are employed in this section. It had been planned to expand and modernize the equipment with Soviet help but the plans fell through with the Tito-Stalin break. Actually, there is only old equipment including two crushers.

FOUNDRY

This section employs about 2,000 workmen. There are six old-type

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furnaces but only three or four are in operation at ~~any~~ one time; the others are under repair.

In 1949, a cableway was built from ~~XXX~~ TILVA MIKA and COKA DULKEN to the sorting and smelting installations to speed up the delivery of the ore. In 1951, another cableway from the limestone quarry at BUCE to the smelter was also put into operation. Until the end of 1948, the foundry used the coke that had been left by the Germans. The Germans had left large quantities but after 1948 the supply of coke dwindled and the failure of POLAND and CZECHOSLOVAKIA to make deliveries caused the production of the foundry section to diminish. At present, coke from GERMANY or USA is being used. The production of coke in YUGOSLAVIA has not yet started.

ELECTROLYTIC SECTION

✓ The machinery used here is of German origin and dates from 1938. The Five-Year Plan provided for converting half of the crude copper into electrolytic copper but this, like many other objectives, was not done. The section employs 400 workmen.

GOLD PRODUCTION

Gold comes from the electrolytic section and is carefully guarded by the plant police and the UDB. [REDACTED] the gold-content of the crude copper is --- (see original) per ton. The extracted gold is consigned to the National Bank. The monthly gold production at BOR averages 160 kilograms.

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BUILDING SECTION

This section employs about 1,500 workmen who are used to enlarge the sorting and electrolytic installations, to build cableways, and to service and repair the other installations.

ECONOMY

✓ The mine has its own farm at COKA near SENTA, formerly the property of a Jew named LEDERER (fnu). Five hundred men and women usually work here.

WORKERS' AID

There are nine workers messes and two buffets for the white collar workers. This section has its own laundry, tailor shop, shoemaker, and

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barbershops. As far as possible, the food is obtained from the Economic Section.

PLANT GUARDS

There are 400 men in the guard force which is under the UDB. The guards wear blue uniforms and are armed pistols and machine pistols. The UDB itself is stationed in houses which formerly belonged to the engineers in Titova ulica. The commandant of the 40-man unit is Major Aco [probably AKO, a pseudonym and the real name not known]

COPPER PRODUCTION

Copper production has dropped off greatly because of scarcity of labor, especially skilled labor, coke, and machinery. The poor work discipline is also reflected in the low production.

The highest post-war production was in the years of 1947 and 1948 when there were almost 8,000 PWs and coke was plentiful. The present monthly production of crude copper probably amounts to about 4,000 tons. About one-third of this is converted to electrolytic copper with the attendant extraction of gold. Most of the production is exported. The most important users of electrolytic copper in YUGOSLAVIA are "Novkabe" of NOVISAD, "Impol" of SLOVENSKA BISTRICA, and other plants producing war materiel.

WORK DISCIPLINE

There are three shifts. Workers who do not live nearby are housed in either the North or the South Camp where they must pay 100 dinars a month. Food in the messes costs 1,200 dinars a month ~~XX~~ and is poor.

Only 30 percent of the workers belong to unions and this fact is considered by the Party as a mistake. Important Communist Party members and union leaders are:

Mile CRNCEVIC

Glisa PEJAK, president of the workers' committee

Mile TOMASEVIC

Ljuba JOVANOVIC.

The main duty of the Party at the minse is to combat Cominformism.

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MINING SCHOOL.

The mining school at BOR was opened in 1946 and now has 240 students who live at the school. The course lasts 4 years and is ~~XXXXXX~~ comparable to a middle technical school. Each year, 100 are graduated (including 10 girls). The school has its own chemical laboratory.

MILITARY SECURITY MEASURES

There are at least two infantry and two artillery regiments stationed near BOR. There are new barracks south of BOR. Since 1951, bunkers, trenches, and other defensive installations have been build at the mines and in the vicinity. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ The ZAJECAR-BOR highway is heavily guarded; mine fields have been laid along the side. In BOR and the surrounding territory, there are at least 30 heavy-caliber pieces with long tubes and 30 antitank or antiaircraft guns of smaller ~~XX~~ caliber.

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